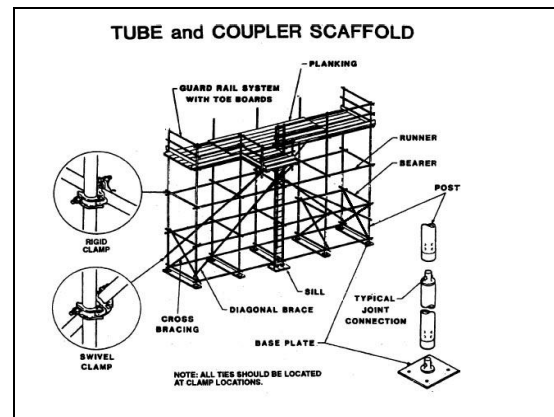


Scaffolding Safety

References:

OSHA 1926.451

SPP 1910.28



In 2009, OSHA stated that scaffolding resulted in 9,093 violations and most of the accidents related to scaffold came from the planking or support giving way or from employees slipping or being struck by falling objects. Falling from the scaffold added to the more than 6,700 violations on fall protection.

There are a variety of scaffold types that OSHA list in the 1926 manual. The rules and regulations for each one vary. Scaffold types range from Pump jack scaffolds, pole scaffolds, Tube and coupler, outrigger scaffolds, form bracket, horse, fabricated frame and more. Stilts are also included in the scaffold category.

Regardless of the type of scaffold that you choose, they must all conform to certain criteria. There are more than **82** definitions that apply to scaffolds.

- All scaffolding must be on a solid footing or you risk turning the scaffold over or falling off.
- Once they are more than 2 feet off the ground, you must have a means of access. You cannot climb the cross braces.
- There must be toeboards 4" high that run along the open sides to protect materials from falling.
- When materials will be stacked above the planking, you must erect some form of fencing or screening to protect materials from falling onto workers below.
- When working on or near scaffolding, **Hardhats** are required due to the potential of materials falling onto a person below.
- Areas around the scaffold should be barricaded off to prevent people from entering the area.
- At 4 times the minimum base dimension, the scaffold must be secured to the wall.

- Scaffolds must not be erected (depending upon voltage) within 3 feet of a power line.

Before the start of each day, the scaffold must be inspected by a competent person for defects, shifting, damage and structural defects. Worker's using the scaffold must become familiar with all hazards associated with its use and notify the supervisor or competent person if problems are noted.

Although Scaffold tags may vary, inspections tags will vary in color depending upon the condition or readiness of the scaffold.

Green: Means that the Scaffold has met all requirements and is safe to use.

Red: Means "Danger" The scaffold is under construction and is not ready for use.

Yellow: Means that employees must wear the appropriate PPE.

The image displays four scaffold tags, each with a specific color and purpose:

- Green Tag (Scaffolding Released for Access):** This tag is used when the scaffold is safe for use. It includes fields for Scaffold No., Job/Site, Date Erected, Erected By (Signature and Print), Inspected By (Signature and Print), Loading Schedule (Light Duty, Medium Duty, Heavy Duty, See Engineering Drawing, Other), Fall Protection Required (Yes/No), and Check Complete Items (Handrails, Mid Rails, Toe Boards, Platform, Ladder, Other).
- Red Tag (Danger/Keep Off):** This tag is used when the scaffold is under construction or has been found defective. It features a large "DANGER" warning, "KEEP OFF", and "DO NOT ALTER" instructions. It also includes fields for Date, Authorized Signature, and Comments.
- Yellow Tag (Caution/Incomplete Scaffold):** This tag is used when the scaffold is not ready for use. It includes a "CAUTION INCOMPLETE SCAFFOLD" warning, fields for Scaffold No., Job/Site, Date Erected, Erected By (Signature and Print), Inspected By (Signature and Print), Loading Schedule, Fall Protection Required, and Check Incomplete Items (Handrails, Mid Rails, Toe Boards, Platform, Ladder, Other).